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VOL. III NO. 94 FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1948.

Arab Forces Occupy Safad
As British Withdraw
Van Heutsz Pirates Rounded Up
Police Effect An Important Coup

A large number of well armed Kowloon Police, supplemented by a section from the Island Force, carried out synchronised raids at four addresses in the Mainland and Hongkong early 4 a.m. yesterday and took into custody six men, four of whom have since been identified as pirates who had robbed the 4,500-ton Van Heutsz while the vessel was on high seas on December 14.

The Van Heutsz arrived at port this morning on her regular run and at an identification parade which the captain, officers and seven men attended, four suspects had already been identified as the robbers who had held up the vessel. One was pointed out as the chief who was directing operation during the piracy while, it is learned, the other three were lieutenants in the gang.

LOOT RECOVERED

At 302, Nathan Road, second floor, believed to be the hideout of the pirate chief, the Police recovered \$52,000 in cash, comprising chiefly of \$500 banknotes, and a large quantity of jewellery, while smaller amounts of money and loots had also been found from the other three addresses.

There was no resistance offered as the Police, after having cordoned off the area, swooped on the suspects and a thorough search of the premises revealed there was no firearms hidden. Meeting at the Tsimshatsui Police Station, the Kowloon Force lined their raid for 4 a.m. yesterday. A party under Inspectors Franklin Scraggs and Detective Sergeant Chan Lai entered the second floor of 302, Nathan Road, and captured one suspect. A second party under ADCI R. L. Whinn, Inspector Pope and Detective Sergeant Lau took broke into room 425, Nathan Road where they took into custody another suspect. The Police succeeded in tracing the movements of this man, who is said to have arrived at Hongkong a little over a month ago and had first lived at the Nathan Road for two weeks. He then moved into the Wo Ping Boarding House in Nathan Road and four days ago he again booked his room at the Nathan Hotel.

(Continued on Page 5)

EDITORIAL

Sig. Longo's Covert Threat

IF the Christian Democrats can put into effect the programme enunciated by Signor de Gasperi, Italy can look forward to a new era of happiness, leading eventually to a full measure of peace and prosperity. The basis of the Gasperi policy is liberty and freedom, and order, on the words: "This is the road along which we must always march—freedom for the parties, freedom for the associations, freedom for trade union organisations. Laws must be based on the principle of freedom, and order, on the defence of this freedom and order in a civilised community which represents a form of democracy." This is an inspiring policy for a country which lost individual freedom more than 20 years ago and whose present generation has never known what democracy means in practice. This alone is going to make de Gasperi's task a difficult one, for there are hundreds of thousands of Italians who have to become mentally unregimented. The process has its pitfalls, with the danger of licence being mistaken for liberty and freedom. Educating the nation into the democratic way of life, however, is likely to be the least of the government's problems. What looms menacingly is the threat of internal disorders and disruptions engineered by the extreme leftists. First hint has already been dropped by Luigi Longo, No. 2 man in the Communist Party, who, commenting on the elections said, "because of the results I fear that relations between the Government and the people will undergo dangerous tension." This is nothing less than

Arab Forces Occupy Safad
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Jews Storm Two Villages
Arab Army HQ, North Palestine, Apr. 22.—Reports reaching this headquarters said today that Arab liberation army units had entered Safad after the British withdrawal from the town, clashing in a series of bloody battles with the Jewish population.

Jews posted at the entry to the main highway into Safad from the coastal area fired mortars and machineguns into the Arab convoys trying to break through with supplies or reinforcements.

When the British withdrew, Arab army forces who infiltrated immediately occupied the fort and used this position to check any possible Jewish attack on Safad. The Jews reportedly were getting reinforcements from the Huleh valley and the strong nearby settlements of Ein Zeitim and Biriya.

Youthful Dr Feisal, a Syrian volunteer just back from Safad, said there were clashes every hour and several dead and wounded on both sides from sniping, but most attacks were minor.

Latest reports from Shafa Amr, which is close to Haifa, indicated that Druze forces under the command of Shakhz Ahabab suffered a heavy attack from the Jews and another Druze contingent, under the command of Kamal Kanj Aboalah, reinforced Ahabab, whose position was slightly improved.

The entire area in North Palestine entered a new phase since the British withdrew from the fort which they still held. Those forts had assured some safety on the roads and prevented a general outbreak of fighting. Since the British left Nebi Yusha fort commanding roads from the coast into Safad and from Syria and the Lebanon into Palestine, Jews and Arabs have flown at each other's throat in a grim fight for survival, and it is too early to say yet who will come out alive.

VILLAGES STORMED

Jerusalem, Apr. 22.—Government officials said today that 20 Jews and three Arabs were reported to have been killed today when 250 Jewish troops stormed two Arab villages near Nablus in retaliation for an Arab attack in the vicinity yesterday.

Officials said that four Jews and two Arabs were slain yesterday

when the Arabs attacked field labourers outside the Jewish colony of Ramat Hakovesh near Nablus. Hagannah troops stormed the neighbouring Arab villages of Zerim and Maris today in retaliation.

Nablus was hit this morning by an Arab strike against food controls enforced by the Arab National Guards. The strikers also opposed the flourishing blackmarket. One Arab was killed in an exchange of fire between the strikers and the Guards.

Two Jews were killed today near Peta Tikva when a bus in which they were travelling hit a mine.—United Press.

HAIFA SITUATION
Haifa, Apr. 22.—The Arabs today agreed to evacuate this strategic oil port city but refused to sign truce terms presented by the Jewish forces now in control.

Three-cornered efforts for a truce by the British, Arabs and Jews broke down after a six-hour conference.

Major H. C. Stockwell, commander of British forces still in Haifa and North Palestine, virtually ordered the Arabs to sign the truce terms, but Arab National Committee members remained adamant.

The Arabs said, however, that the cease-fire order agreed to at noon today would remain in force and that the Arabs would evacuate the city. The Arab population of Haifa is streaming out of the city, Arab leaders said more than 15,000 left after last night's Hagannah attack, which swept Arab defenders out of most of the strategic points in the old city. It was estimated that not more than 15,000 Arabs are left in Haifa.

Arab officials requested a meeting with Major Stockwell tomorrow to arrange for their evacuation. (A senior Arab official who arrived at Beirut, Lebanon, by boat from Haifa said that 50,000 of Haifa's 80,000 Arabs already had evacuated the city).

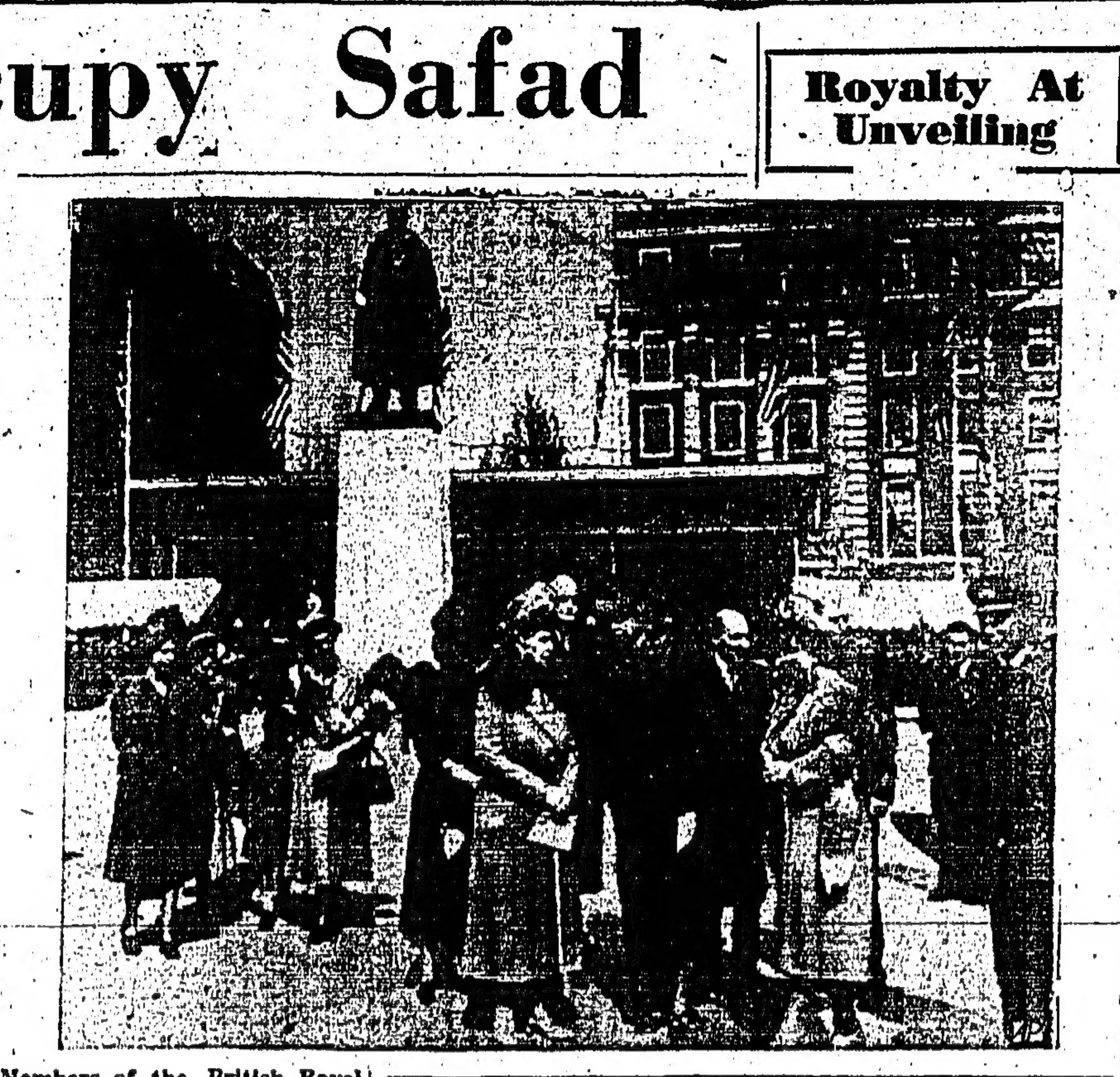
Jews and Arabs scrambled for control of Palestine's Number 1 port as soon as the British forces began leaving yesterday. Only a small contingent of British troops remained to guard British Headquarters on top of Mount Carmel and the port area needed for the final evacuation.

CASUALTY FIGURES
According to latest casualty figures, 100 Arabs and 11 Jews were killed during last night's fighting. Thirty-six Jews were listed as wounded.

(An official announcement in Jerusalem said 100 Arab wounded were being evacuated from Haifa's Emil Hospital to the Government hospital. It said four British officers were wounded and one Mauritanian soldier killed and 12 others wounded today at Haifa. A later announcement said Jews and Arabs engaged tonight in a battle on the outskirts of Haifa to capture the village of Tiroh.)

Although sporadic firing continued through the afternoon, both Jews and Arabs were in the main observing the cease-fire agreement. Four or five shots an hour were heard in the city. The Arabs said most of their men, including Iraqi troops, left today while Arab commanders left yesterday. More than 6,000 Arabs left by small boats for Acre, nine miles north, where a large evacuation camp has been set up.—United Press.

(Continued on Page 5)



Members of the British Royal family stand with other distinguished guests in front of Britain's memorial statue to the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt at its unveiling in London. In group, left to right: Princess Elizabeth; Princess Margaret Rose; Prince Michael of Kent; Duchess of Kent, his mother; unidentified woman; Queen Mother Mary; Henry S. Hooker, President Truman's personal representative; Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt; Prime Minister Clement Attlee; Queen Elizabeth; King George, and Viscount Alexander, Canada's Governor-General. — AP Wirephoto.

Red Leader Pledges Non-Violence

CALLS ELECTIONS "CORRUPT"

Rome, Apr. 22.—Signor Palmiro Togliatti, leader of the Italian Communists, today denounced Sunday's general elections as "corrupt" and influenced by "brutal foreign intervention," but pledged his party not to resort to violence.

The Italian Premier, Signor Alcide de Gasperi, head of the victorious Christian Democrats, rejected the Communist charges and said that his clear majority in both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate "does not mean a defeat for the working classes."

Interviewed by the Communist newspaper, *Unita*, Signor Togliatti said: "We will open and keep open the question of having freely held elections in which people will not be menaced by hunger and war from abroad, and by threats of hellfire from priests." But, he added, "to use force, whatever the outcome, would result in harm to our nation, which would then be threatened with the loss of its independence."

Signor de Gasperi, at his press conference, commented: "If America wanted to act as Signor Togliatti suggests, she would have withheld her grain until she knew who would get it."

"Italy understood very well the difference between an imperialist America seeking to dominate Europe through threats of war and an America seeking the reconstruction of Europe through whole-hearted collaboration," he said.

71 DAYS
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Unlike the military passenger trains stopped by the Russians on April 1, passengers in the Nord coaches have been showing their documents and baggage at Russian demand.

The French are understood to be planning to replace the coaches by running their own buses between Berlin and Brussels.

The Soviet decision on the Nord express coaches would cut the last Allied passenger train link between Berlin and the West. British transport officials said the Nord express connection out of Berlin has been in operation since 1945. It was subject to the normal civilian passenger train arrangement and carried accredited passengers of Allied nationality.

A British official said tonight: "It is an international train crossing Soviet occupied territory with Soviet authorisation and if the Soviet authorities ban it there is nothing we can do. Apart from a power to annoy, I can see no reason for the action."—Reuter.

SOVIETS IMPOSE NEW BAN

Berlin, Apr. 22.—The Soviet authorities here today announced that they would prohibit the two Allied coaches to be attached to the daily Nord express running between Berlin and Paris.

The cancellation chiefly affects French passengers. The French authorities have protested against the Soviet action, and the British were tonight also planning a protest.

FRENCH REPLY

Major-General Petrov, chief of the Soviet railway operating department in Berlin, has ordered the ban to be effective from tomorrow. The coaches join the main Nord express train at Osnabruck in the British Zone, providing connection for passengers travelling to Brussels, Paris and London.—Reuter.

The Russian announcement said the Nord express connection would not be restored until new arrangements had been made by the American, French and British with the Soviet authorities, or through the Allied Control Council.

Attempt To Manhandle Assembly Chairman

Nanking, Apr. 23.—The National Assembly's session yesterday afternoon ended with a forcible attempt made by some angry delegates to manhandle the chairman for deliberately blocking passage of the last series of proposals, which, among other things, included the setting up of a Resident Committee upon the conclusion of the Assembly's current session.

In the chair was General Hu Chiang, attached to the Ministry of National Defence, whose action in declaring that there were not enough delegates to make a quorum towards the end of the session and adjourning it without consulting the floor as to the necessity of extension, as is the usual practice, provoked several delegates to climb the platform and follow him with clenched fists as he unashamedly dodged into the conference room in the back, followed by general confusion and agitation.

"DIRTY" ACTION

Throughout the greater part of the afternoon, proposals running into hundreds, had been declared passed by chairman with practically the same number of delegates present if no objections were raised.

The chairman's action today, which many delegates called "dirty and undemocratic," was presumably intended to conform with the earlier statement by President Chiang Kai-shek that no such thing as a Resident Committee of the National Assembly should be organized. Apparently working under the same principle, the Presidium had listed the same group of proposals at the very end of the discussion period with remarks that no conclusive decision was made thereon by the Proposal and Examination Committee after three full days' deliberations, and with more than 600 delegates supporting them.—Reuter-AAP.

BURIED ALIVE FOR 3 HOURS

New York, Apr. 22.—A diver, buried alive for three hours today under tons of mud on the bottom of New York Harbour, was freed and brought safely to the surface.

Fourteen Navy divers worked to free Edward Christensen, trapped when the mud trench in which he was working closed around him.

Fire Department crews lowered hoses to try to drive away the mud closing over Christensen, who told his surface vessel: "For God's sake, tell them to hurry. I am buried alive."

The police said he remained calm and directed the divers who went down to free him.—Reuter.



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WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



ROYAL FUN—Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, vacationing at Zermatt, Switzerland, with her husband and their four children, engages in a snowball fight, and seems to be enjoying it.



ALLIED GEAR HELPS BERLIN CLEAN-UP—British and American bulldozers, lent to the Germans, clear away rubble in front of the Reichstag building in Berlin. The cleaning was in preparation for a celebration commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Berlin revolution.



NO PHONY GLITTER is this queen's crown. Pat Boyer, standing, fits a crown of desert shrubs on the head of Marilyn McKay, Queen of the Palm Springs, California, desert circus.



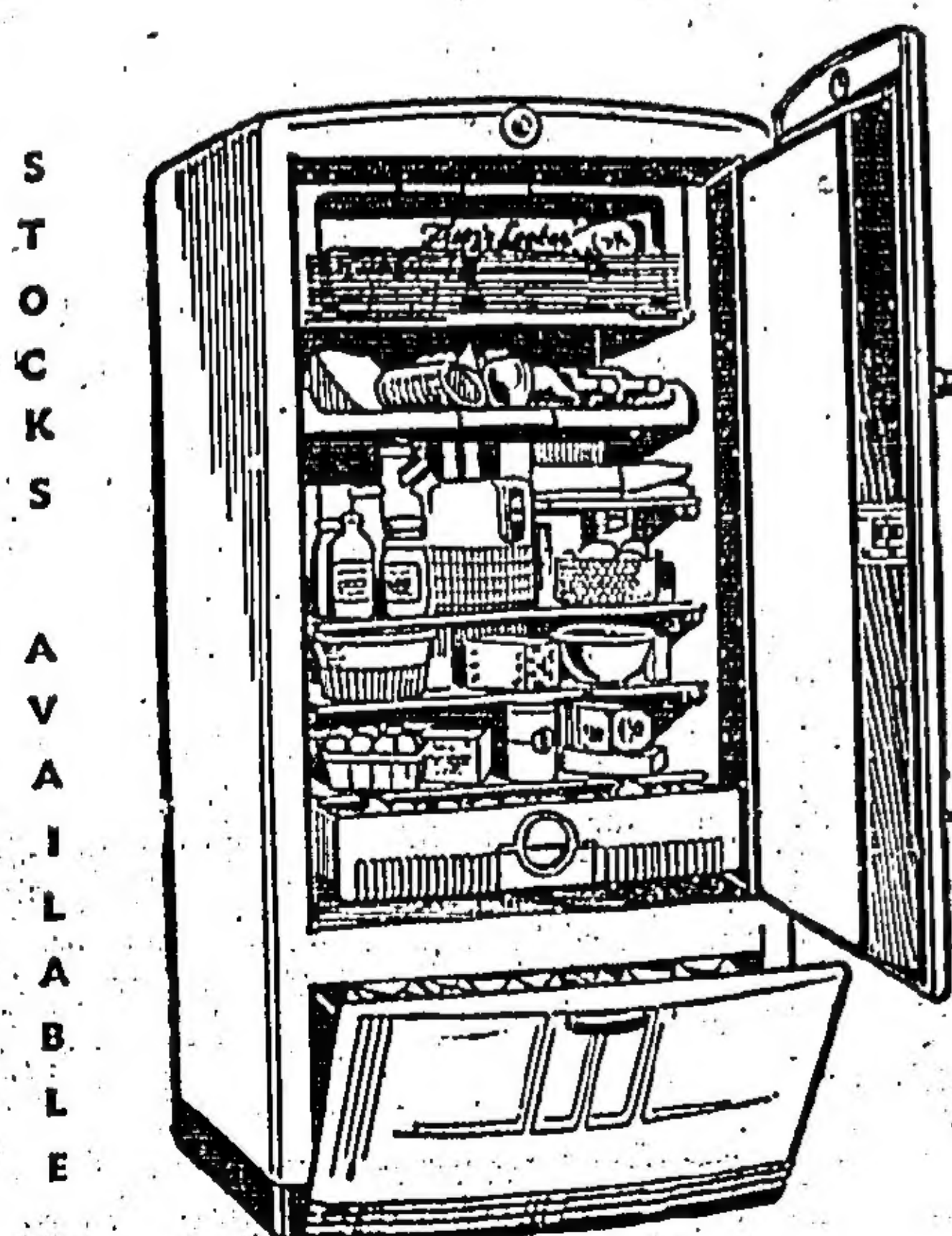
WATCHING FUTURE PROFITS—Soaking rains on western Kansas wheat lands have increased prospects in the United States for better 1948 wheat crops. Since the farmers could not work during the rain, they crowded into the grain exchange at Garden City, Kansas, to keep an eye on prices.



BEACH BALLET—Savina Schlada of New York takes off from Daytona's famous beach on a flight of dance fancy. Actually she is in training for women's swimming and diving contests this year.



STILL GOING STRONG—This fleet of "horseless carriages" caused New Yorkers to rub their eyes when they spotted it in Times Square. The old cars proved their worth by driving to an antique automobile show.

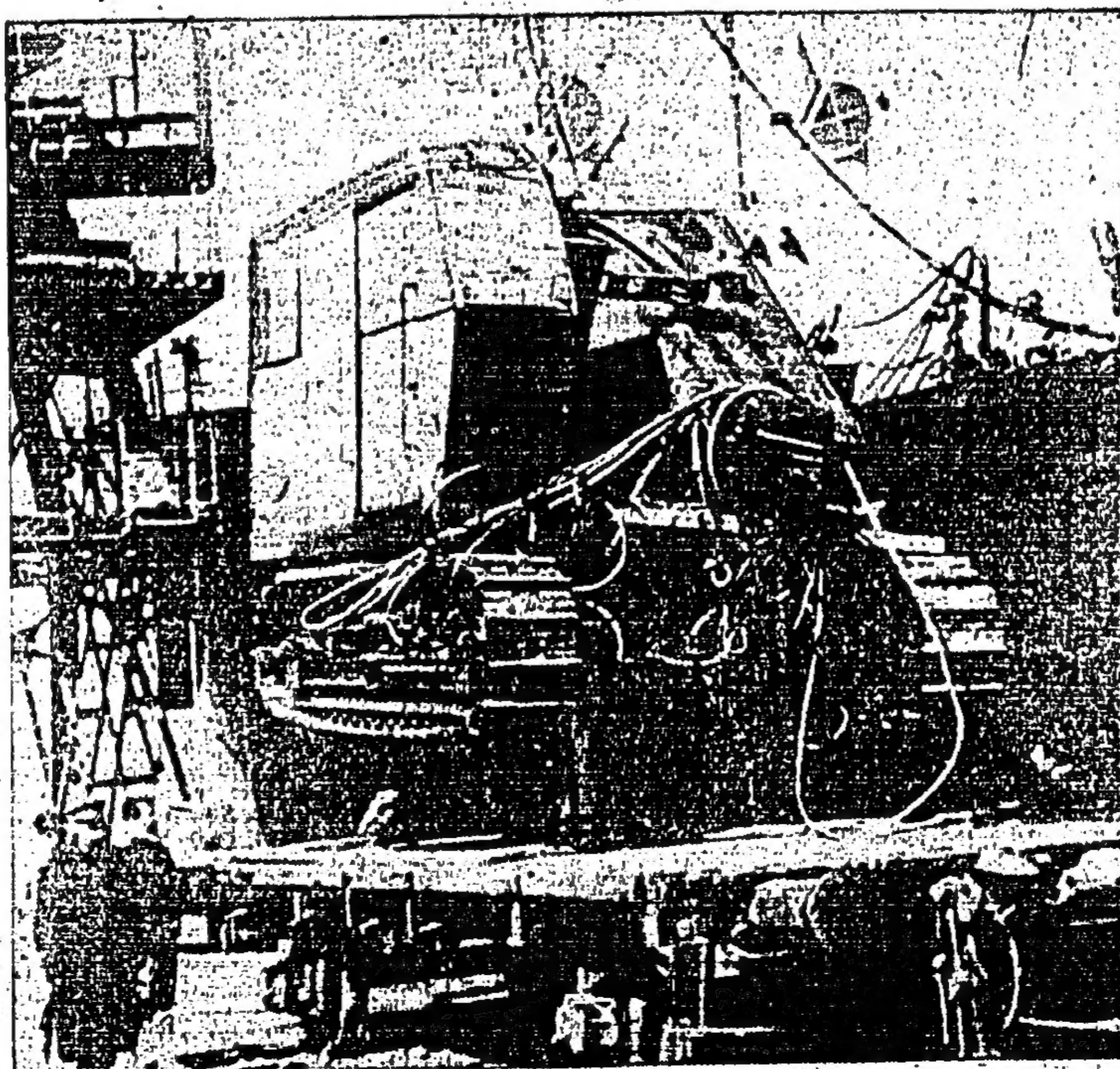


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AID FOR TURKEY—A 50-ton derrick is lowered from the Turkish ship, Edirne, at Iskenderun, Turkey. The machinery is among the first American supplies to reach Turkey under the U.S. aid agreement. The Edirne carried 5,000 tons of road-building equipment and naval gear.

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BY C. V. R. THOMPSON

America's New Guessing Game

NEW YORK.—America's most popular guessing game—where will Britain stand in the event of war between the U.S. and Russia?—produced two answers, neither confirmable, in the American Press recently.

The Hearst newspapers, which do not like Britain much more than they like Russia, reported a "super secret" Anglo-American deal.

It is being worked out, they said, by four phantom-like British agents—unnamed—who are supposed to be flitting between New York, Washington, and Canada.

Their objectives—complete military and economic alliance between Britain, the U.S., and Canada; Britain to act as America's managing director in non-Russian Europe, overruling all distribution of aid both military and economic.

Answer two came from that Washington keyhole-peeper, Drew Pearson. He said: "Definite word has been given by the British Government that if Russia attacks in Europe Britain will fight."

INCIDENTALLY, Washington has already asked Britain for precise estimates of what she needs in the first three months of Marshall aid. The expected answer is—raw materials and machinery, little or no food.

JACK BENNY, America's top comic, is asking twice what Danny Kaye got (£2,500 a week) for a London Palladium appearance this summer. PHILIP WILKIE, 28-year-old son of the late Wendell Wilkie, decided to run for Congress as a Tory in his native Indiana.

GINGER BEER, advertised in New York papers as being "as British as crumpets or cricket," is back in the shops for the first time since 1939. Price: 2s. a bottle.

If he is beaten in the Presidential election, President Harry Truman has been promised a £30,000-a-year job with an insurance company.

THERE IS A BOOM in Rolls Royces (American price £4,875) in Texas and the other day a man bought one for his wife because it matched her new blue hat. Reason—there is a new crop of multimillionaires in Texas and three other American States—Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

Men are making fortunes in these States because everyone wants what they produce—wheat, meat, and cotton. Richest of them all, indeed, is the richest man in America today. His name is Harlan Hunt. His home town Dallas. His weekly income \$250,000. Starting with a lease on undeveloped oil land, Hunt has built up a fortune estimated at \$65,750,000.

THE RUSSIAN INN in Carmel, California, changed its name to Ocean Inn "for business reasons."

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MARGARET LOCKWOOD with DEREK FARR
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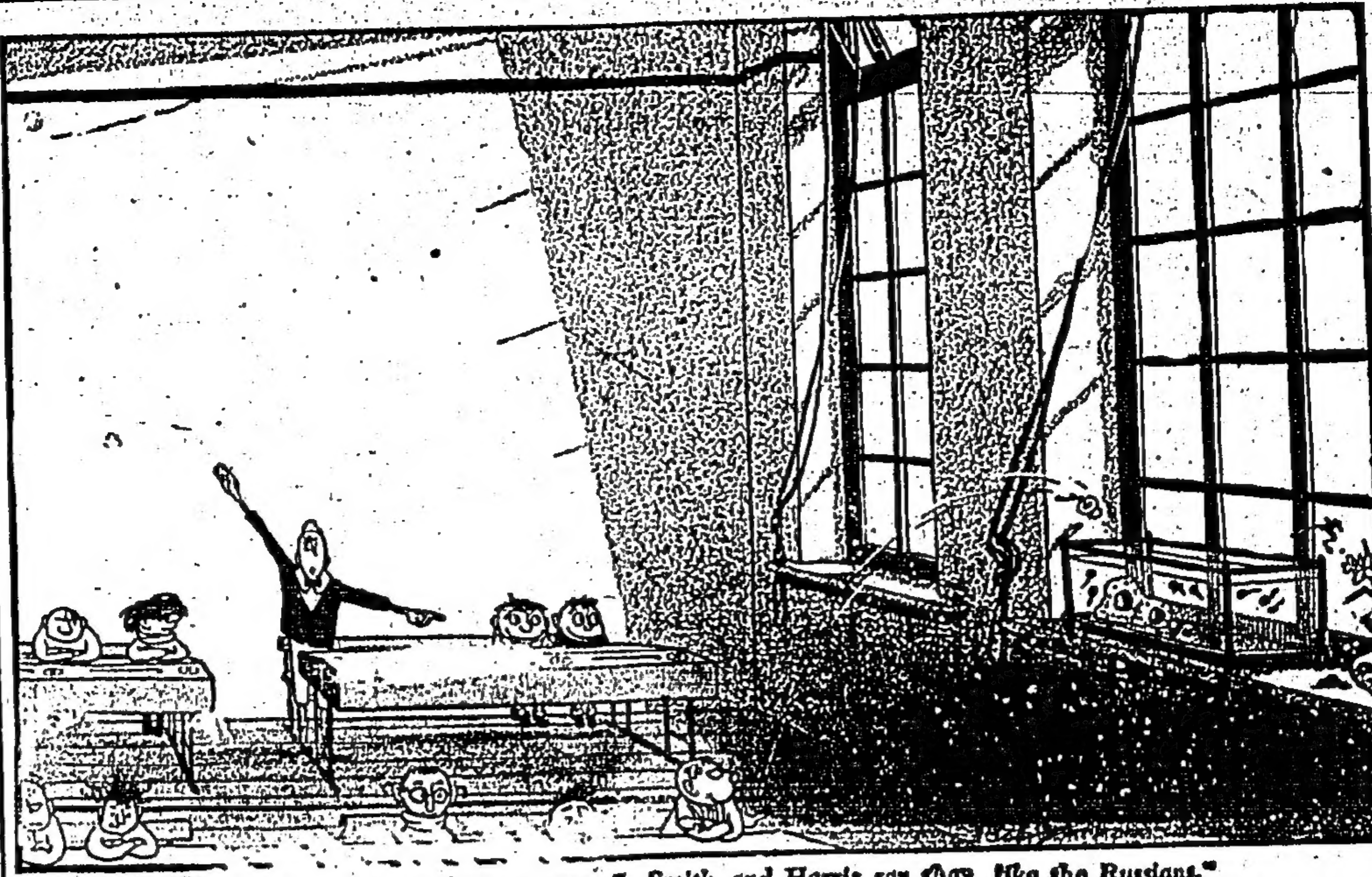
M-G-M's "GALLANT BESS" in action cinecolor

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SUNDAY EXTRA SHOW "FLYING HORSE"
A RUSSIAN PICTURE



HOLLYWOOD WINS THE GREAT FILM BATTLE

by... Stephen Watts

PEOPLE have been shocked and surprised by the news of film studios closing down and workers being paid off. They cannot understand why this has happened.

A few months ago the British film industry had the opportunity of its life. An import tax had caused Hollywood to stop sending its films into the country.

British films, which had been growing in quality and stature since 1939, had the market at their feet. Here, it seemed, was just the chance the industry needed.

Then suddenly, a few weeks ago, Mr. Harold Wilson, the President of the Board of Trade, changed the whole scene.

He signed an agreement with Mr. Eric Johnston, representing the Hollywood producers. Hollywood was free again to pour its pictures into Britain.

But there were conditions. Mr. Harold Wilson explained how he was still going to save our precious dollars.

The American film companies would not be allowed to take out of the country all the money their films earned here. A large proportion, estimated at £10,000,000 a year, would remain in Britain.

The Americans must spend it in Britain. Naively Mr. Wilson suggested that the Americans might use the money to show us how to run our hotels.

Far from naively, the Americans made their plans to use the money doing what comes naturally—making films.

THEY GAIN

By that ill-considered agreement Mr. Wilson signed over the British film industry to Hollywood.

Why do I say that? Because the only people to benefit from it are the Americans—and Mr. J. Arthur Rank, who is tying himself up very closely with the Americans.

The Americans are let loose to fill our cinemas with their films and crowd out everybody who has not the power of a big combine to ensure a showing for his picture.

They are free to spend £10,000,000 a year making Hollywood pictures in Britain, in overwhelming competition with the British independent producer.

How does Mr. Rank benefit? Because his cinemas (and 1,008 of the biggest and best cinemas in Britain are in the virtual control of either Mr. Rank or the American Warner Brothers) are assured of new films.

His own films are guaranteed showing, the studios where they are made are owned by him, and the agreement ensures that the Americans will push his films in the U.S. in order to free more of their revenue in Britain for removal in dollars.

No wonder Mr. Rank said in New York the day the agreement was signed, "Everything in the garden is lovely."

But other British producers, less strongly armed with bargaining power do not share his joy. They are very, very worried indeed about their future.

That is not just a personal view.

The trade journal, Kinematograph Weekly, says that the producers are "perturbed." It adds:

"They are convinced that the settlement gives the Americans a very strong position in British studios. They see dangers ahead and they argue that the second year may be worse than the first."

As for the studio workers, the cause of their anxiety is clear. Their union leader, Mr. Tom O'Brien, M.P., says: "British studio labour is being reduced to the humiliating position of asking American companies to take it over."

MR WILSON

Humiliating it certainly is, but it is also now inevitable. It became inevitable when the Wilson-Johnston pact was signed.

British producers and workers now realise that their future has been sold out to Hollywood, in the name of saving a few dollars.

The independent film-maker suddenly finds himself hemmed in at every turn, his finance light studios unobtainable, and his outlet blocked by Hollywood pictures crowding the big circuit cinemas.

Perhaps Mr. Wilson did not know exactly what he was doing, but there was no doubt about it at all in the mind of anybody who took the trouble to read the terms of the agreement.

The dynamite lay there—in, for example, the "Schedule of Permitted Uses" to which the American companies may put the money they have to keep in this country.

Item No. 1 is this: "To encompass uses within the film industry in the sterling area without limit as to amount."

The independent British producer—and it is often the small man who has the ideas and courage which stimulate and vitalise a whole industry—is doomed. There will be no room for him anywhere.

RENT RISE?

Why, you may ask, should he be crowded out of the studios? Because the American companies already own or control through their British affiliations most of the studio space not under the control of the Rank group.

They have not been using their space much lately (while the tax was on they wanted to starve, not feed, British screens), but now they are going ahead with their production plans.

The Hollywood companies which do not have studios will quickly be in the market as tenants for the others. And they will have plenty of money.

Studio rents, already fabulously high, will go up still further. The independent, seeking to make pictures at an economic price (even if he could find an outlet for them), will not be able to stand up to such bidding as there will be against him.

A rival with £10,000,000 a year to spend is a formidable fellow.

What must puzzle the ordinary man on the outside looking in at the film business is why, at a time

when British films have reached a position of prestige unequalled in their history and have had an unsurpassed opportunity for expansion, our production should be lagging instead of pushing forward.

Contributory causes have been many. Our films cost too much, took too long to make.

The men who actually make the films do not spend all the money charged against their pictures. Many of the overheads are invisible to them. Too many highly paid non-productive executives have dug themselves in on the upper levels.

The business is riddled with rackets.

Now the zenith of opportunity is past. Thanks to the tax agreement, Hollywood, against whom our producers had made great headway during and since the war, at least in the home market, is back in the arena refreshed and re-equipped.

Its films will do nothing for Britain. They will be Hollywood films made "on location."

Our films have been widely praised for their distinctively British character. The way of life they reflected was greeted even in America as a welcome change from the stale conventions of Hollywood.

WILL AMERICAN MILITARY AID END CHINESE WAR?

BY JOHN RODERICK

CAN American military aid bring about a Nationalist victory in the bitter Chinese civil war?

This is a question over which there appears to be singularly little agreement within China itself.

To assess opinion throughout the country the Associated Press approached foreigners and independent Chinese—in Peking, Shanghai, Hongkong and Nanking.

These are the replies the AP correspondents received: Shanghai—American military help to Chiang Kai-shek can have little effect unless: first, the Chinese army leadership is thoroughly shaken up; second, the Chinese foot soldier undergoes a period of intensive training under the eyes of American army advisers; third, American advisers accompany Chinese armies into the field, doing everything short of firing rifles.

"The Chinese army is such a sprawling organisation, its leadership so bad, its morale so low that it would take a complete house-cleaning to achieve any solid result," said one neutral military man.

If the United States is prepared to spend an amount equal to her wartime outlay in China—in excess of US\$2,000,000,000—and is willing to dispatch 10,000 advisers, the results would become apparent in two years.

But it would take at least four years before the government could decisively defeat the Communist armies.

Correspondent Harold K. Mills in Nanking—"Most sources are dubious that American military assistance at an acceptable level could produce a clear cut victory. But it should be able to reopen communications and reestablish Chiang Kai-shek's military superiority."

"Any assistance approved today is unlikely to produce important results on Chinese battlefields within six months to one year. Any lasting change in the situation would take double that time."

"The alternative is to hope Chiang Kai-shek can hold on until the world situation changes."

Hongkong—"An American military aid programme could swing the battle in the Nationalists' favour. How soon such a victory would come depends mainly on the amount of the aid. The popular estimate is at least two years."

"The aid would have to be substantial—around US\$2,000,000,000."

"The only alternative would be a Communist victory with one part of China—Communist—the other Nationalist, with the Communists gradually absorbing all."

"A prominent financier who asked anonymity said General MacArthur and Wedemeyer's recommendations should be followed. 'They have a right to prescribe medicine for a sick China.'"

Spencer Moosa in Peking—"The opinion of American and Chinese circles. American military aid in the form of war supplies would bring about a Nationalist victory; first, if American advisers were attached to the army from the high command in Nanking down to field units; second, if this were synchronised with economic help, particularly towards stabilising the currency, without which other assistance might be nullified."

"China's military needs would include a vast expansion of the air transport service particularly facilities to move any five divisions quickly to danger areas."

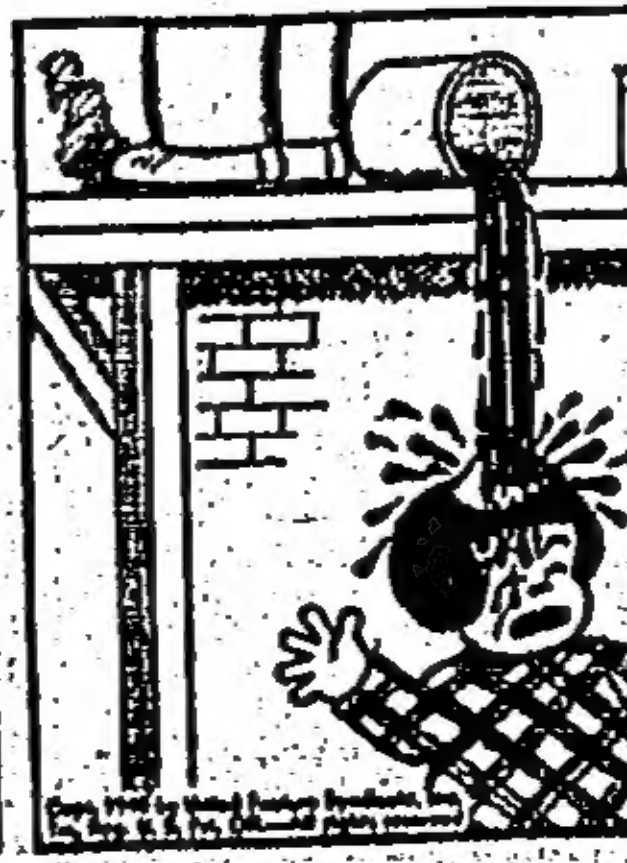
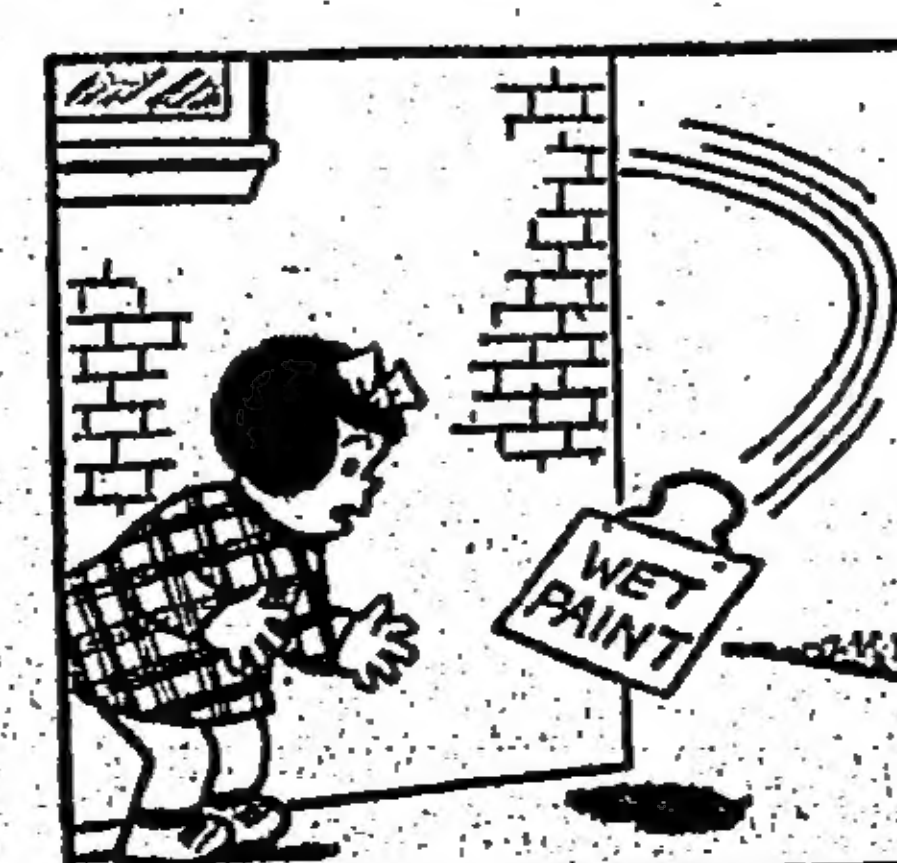
"An estimate of the time needed for victory is three years, with every help it is doubted that the Nationalists could mount a large-scale all-front counter-offensive before next year."

"The cost of financing this is reckoned in billions and internationally in the risk of making China another Spain with the possibility of provoking or hastening World War III."

"Unless substantial help is given the alternative would be the gradual subjugation of the whole of China by the Reds and the inclusion of this country in the Soviet orbit."—Associated Press.

By Ernie Bushmiller

NANCY Untouchable



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WIFE PLEADS ON BEHALF OF HUSBAND

Attempted Murder Trial

A plea that her husband be discharged and allowed to return to her was made by the wife of the accused before Mr Justice Gould at the Criminal Sessions this morning, when the trial of Wong Hung, 20, a Sanitary Department coolie, continued.

Wong is charged with the attempted murder of his wife, Chung Tsui-ye, and causing her grievous bodily harm at No. 7 Cemetery, Customs Pass Road, on the evening of January 22.

Following evidence by the accused, the wife was recalled by the Court. She declared that her husband was a good man, that he often gave up his own food to her, and that she did not think her husband would have attacked her. She asked the Court to discharge him and to let him return to her as she was not an able woman, and her mother-in-law, with whom she lived, was also old.

ACCUSED'S STATEMENT

When the trial resumed this morning, his Lordship held that certain statements made by Wong to the Police, and which he alleged had been obtained from him by compulsion, had been made voluntarily. These were read to the jury. In the statements, Wong said he had struck her on the head with an iron pick-axe and that he had sold three gold-finger rings and obtained over \$200 for them.

In reply to the charge of causing his wife grievous bodily harm, Wong said he struck her on the rear of the moment, and in answer to the charge of attempted murder he declared he had not intended to murder her. He was drunk that day and he did not know what he was doing.

Testifying on oath, Wong maintained he was drunk on the night of January 22 and he had no knowledge of what had happened. He saw his wife the following day when she was being carried out of the Cemetery by some people.

Wong alleged that when he was being questioned at the police station a Chinese detective-sergeant, Tam Chung, threatened to "break every bone in my body if I did not confess." He further alleged that Tam wrote out a prepared confession and he was asked to sign it, and when he refused he was severely beaten-up with an iron bar. Tam, he alleged, told him to make his statement to the Inspector as he had been instructed or he would suffer a further beating. Wong alleged he was beaten-up three times in all. He was unable to bear the pain, so he had no alternative but to confess.

ONLY A PUSH

Wong declared he had not struck his wife with the iron pick-axe head, nor had he taken the three gold-finger-rings to be melted. As far as he could recollect, he had only given her a push.

Also recalled by the Court, Wong's aged mother testified that her son had always been a good man, and had not been in any trouble before. She testified, however, that he was fond of drinking and when he became drunk he got excited and beat himself.

Mr J. Reynolds, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting, assisted by Det. Sub-Inspector H. T. Matches. The jury comprises four men and three women. The trial is proceeding.

Divorce Hearing Adjourned

A petition for divorce from her husband on the ground of adultery was brought by Violet Edith Vio, of Corrabert, 210 Orrong Road, Toorak, Melbourne, Australia, against her husband, Dr. Eric Vio, of Exchange Building, third floor, Hongkong, before Mr Justice Williams in the Divorce Court this morning.

Mr Charles E. Loseby, instructed by Mr E. S. C. Brooks, appeared for the petitioner, and the suit was uncontested.

Following evidence by an amah, his Lordship enquired the name of the co-respondent, said to be a European woman, but it was not available. His Lordship then adjourned the hearing for a month for enquiries to be made and for the co-respondent's name to be revealed.

VERY NAUGHTY GIRL

"You've been a very naughty girl," said Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning when he bound a 17-year-old girl, O Ping, over in \$200 for 12 months for a fine of \$970 and three gold rings. The girl, mother at 149 Connaught Road West, second floor, on April 15.

Inspector Lau said defendant stole the money and rings and absconded to Canton. The mother reported the theft to the Police and the fact that her daughter had absconded. The Police advised the complainant to send someone to Canton to locate defendant. Defendant was located two days ago and brought back to Hongkong. Defendant said she had spent all the money with the exception of \$30.

The mother, Chai On, asked the Court to be lenient with the girl. She would see that defendant did not do anything wrong again.

PAULA BY DENNIS WHEATLEY



Mackintosh's Claim For Premises

MR FIELD CONTINUES EVIDENCE

Mr B. C. Field, Secretary of Hongkong Land Investment, who originally protested against being called as a witness, gave further evidence before Mr D. L. Strellett, sitting as a one-man Tenancy Tribunal, this morning when hearing of the application for an eviction order by Messrs Mackintosh's Ltd against L. Mercado (Mayo's Shoppe) and Mrs Kovach was continued.

Seven Raids On Opium Divans

The Police waged war on opium addicts on Thursday night, raiding seven divans in Wanchai, Shaukwan and the Western district. A total of 17 opium pipes and 58 small pots of opium was seized.

Five divan keepers, 30 opium smokers and two owners of pipes and opium were dealt with by Mr d'Almada at Central this morning.

Two of the keepers who had similar previous convictions, Lo Fuk and Ng Sun were sentenced to three and two months respectively and recommended for banishment. Lo's divan was at a hut in Tak Sing Lane and Ng's was at Sai Wu Street.

Another accused, Wong Wing, charged with possession of a pipe and opium, at a hut in Hoi Fong Street East, was given five months and recommended for banishment. He had been twice convicted for divan-keeping.

Lee Ki was fined \$650 or four months for his divan at a hut in Bullock Lane and Lau Kwan \$500 or three months for keeping a divan at a hut in South Lane. A woman, To Ho, was fined \$300 or two months for being the keeper of a divan at a hut in Tak Sing Lane while Chan Nam who had a pipe and opium in a hut in Shaukwan, was fined \$200 or a month for possession.

Eleven of the smokers who were absent had their bail of \$450 treated while the remaining 19 were fined \$25. All the apparatus was ordered to be destroyed and the huts to be demolished.

Inspector N. H. Moran prosecuted.

ST GEORGE'S DAY

Wreath Laid At The Cenotaph

To mark the observance of St George's Day in Hongkong, the local Society of St George held a wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph this morning. The wreath was laid by Mr C. G. Roberts, President of the Society, and Mr Col. E. J. R. Mitchell, OBE, ED, the Vice-President.

Burglars from HMS London sounded the "Last Post" and "Reveille." Among those present were Lt-Col. H. E. L. Dowbiggin, OBE and Mr P. S. Cassidy (Past Presidents), Messrs J. G. Meyer, H. G. W. Woodhead, CBE, V. C. Labrum, F. C. Cleme, E. P. Streetfield, L. R. Whant, Prof. K. H. Digby, OBE and the Rev. F. W. Weaver (members of the Committee) and Messrs G. Copley-Moye, A. Percy, S. Hampden Ross, W. V. A. Croucher, H. G. Gardner, J. H. R. Hance, Mr and Mrs F. E. Skinner and Mrs Weaver.

In celebration of St George's Day, the film "While the Sun Shines" (Klins Ltd, free of charge, will be screened at the Lee Theatre, while on Sunday there will be a special service at St John's Cathedral at 11 a.m.

H.E. Bids Mr Wylie Farewell

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, this morning called on Mr Benjamin Wylie, former Managing Director of the South China Morning Post, Ltd., to bid him farewell on his retirement from the Colony.

Mr and Mrs Wylie leave for Durban on Monday next.



Arabs Occupy Safad

(Continued from Page 1)

A Haganah spokesman said the ease of the victory astonished the Jews as much as anyone and almost the entire city was stunned by the rapidity of developments.

The Haganah said it had anticipated at least several days of extremely heavy fighting, with heavy casualties.

It stated that last night's attack started with limited objectives, but lack of resistance brought a sweep through the Arab positions. The spokesman said the Arabs made the opening move for peace this morning when they contacted Major Stockwell and requested terms. Adding as mediator, Major Stockwell asked the Haganah for terms, which demanded complete disarmament of Arabs and search of the city which would be turned over to the Jews, who Arabs would be permitted to return to their jobs and remain in the peaceful city.

After negotiations all morning with the separate parties, Major Stockwell brought both sides to the table this afternoon, with the Arabs being represented by the chairman of the Arab National Committee, Sheikh Abdurrahman Murad, and six of his aides. The Jews were represented by Mayor Shabtai Levi and members of the Jewish National Council and officials of the Haganah.

The British representative acted as chairman—United Press.

BOUND FOR PALESTINE
Damascus, Apr. 23.—Four batteries of 75 millimetre guns rolled out of a big Syrian Army camp at Halab on Thursday and a Syrian Army source said that they and their steel helmeted crews were bound for Palestine.

A Syrian Cabinet minister in Damascus told the Associated Press that Haganah's offensive in Palestine has "already begun" and said the situation "is too critical" for Arabs to wait for the British evacuation.

"This is an Arab fight," he added, "and with Arabs being slaughtered like cattle in Palestine, we must send armies to protect them."

He claimed that the Jewish offensive is being directed by Russian officers. Meanwhile, unconfirmed reports here said that one detachment of Syrian Army engineers has already entered the Holy Land.—Associated Press.

Marine Court

The mistress of a Class I sampan was fined \$75 or three weeks by Mr Cairns at the Marine Court this morning for conveying women for the purposes of prostitution. Sub-Inspector McCarthy reported that when the boat was stopped near the APC Wharf at North Point, there were seven women on board who admitted they were prostitutes.

Defendant pleaded that the women had hired her boat to take them from a ship to the shore. She was not aware that they were prostitutes.

The acting mistresses of two cargo boats and the acting master of a similar vessel were each fined \$15 or three days for not having anchor lights.

COMEDY AT THE EUROPEAN "Y"

The "Younger Set" of the European YMCA are presenting "Peg O' My Heart" on Thursday, May 6, and the following two nights.

The cast is mostly composed of the younger members of the "Y" Dramatic Club, and almost every one is making his stage debut.

Molly Torry will be seen in the difficult role of Peg, and the senior lead is taken by Molly Portallion. Completing the cast are Nelson Selator, Margaret Slim, Ian Cox-Walker, Geoffrey Baker, Geoffrey Hall, Thomas Macfarlane and Ann Aguzzi.

New Symphony Wins Praise

London, Apr. 22.—Music critics today hailed a new symphony by 75-year old Ralph Vaughan Williams as one of the most brilliant triumphs of his career.

Performed for the first time on Wednesday night by the BBC orchestra under the baton of Sir Adrian Boult, the work—Symphony No. 6 in E Minor—was received first in impressive silence, then with a torrent of applause. Again and again the composer was summoned to the platform.

"The whole thing," said Scott Goddard of the News Chronicle, "was a very moving experience. Music of this quality is rare and it starts one with the profundity of feeling it expresses."

Vaughn Williams' music has always defied facile labelling and his new symphony is bound to stir up new fust over his meanings.

The London Times critic said—"the symphony can be related to the experience of war, its challenges, its sinister import for ultimate values, its physical bombardment even."

Generally deemed to be Britain's greatest living composer, Vaughn Williams is an essentially shy man. He declined to discuss his fresh success.—Associated Press.

Police Round Up Pirates

(Continued from Page 1)

These two raiding parties then combined forces and swooped on an unnumbered hut in Lai Chi Yuen, in Kowloon City rural district, where three more men were arrested. The Hongkong squad, under Inspector Saul, meanwhile, paid an unexpected visit on the second floor of 370, Queen's Road West, where the sixth suspect was brought back for questioning.

Because of the large number of victims in the piracy, it was found necessary that identification parade should be held on more than one occasion. This morning the Captain, officers and other members of the crew of the Van Heutz attended the parade and it is learned that another will be held sometime this afternoon.

The four suspects, who had been identified as having taken part in the piracy, will probably be brought before a Court in Kowloon this afternoon when they will face a charge of piracy in the high seas and will be remanded for further enquiries.

FIRST CASE OF ITS KIND

The first case of its kind to be brought before the Court was that of Tramway Inspector Cheung Sang, 42, who was charged before Mr d'Almada at Central this morning with conspiring with others to defraud the Hongkong Tramways of passengers' fares between February 1 and March 31.

On the application of Sub-Inspector Morrison, Cheung was remanded for a week.

SOCIAL EVENING AT KCC

Another popular, informal dance and social evening will be held at the Kowloon Cricket Club tomorrow evening, starting at 8 p.m.

All members and their friends are cordially invited to attend.

Cardinal Spellman Coming Here

According to a United Press report from New York, Cardinal Francis Spellman, who is going to Australia to attend the Catholic Centennial celebrations in Melbourne, will visit Hongkong.

Cardinal Spellman left La Guardia airport yesterday for San Francisco, and his overseas tour will include New Zealand, Singapore, Chinese coastal cities, the Philippines and Japan.

Car Without Lights

Bernard Croft, of 4 Homunlin Hill, was fined \$10 by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning for not having any front or rear lights on his car at Hennessy Road on March 17.

A caution was administered to Frederick John Horman Fisher, of Wheelock Martin Co. Ltd., King's Building, for causing obstruction with his car at Pedder Street on March 10.

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Complete Surrender—Or Death!

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The Strange Love of Martha Fier
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Directed by Lawrence Marshall

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It's Larceny!

London, Apr. 22.—A British high court held today that a man who kept lost golf balls which he picked up while trespassing on a golf course was guilty of larceny.

The court upheld the conviction of Harold Hibbert, who was fined £1 by Stockport, magistrates for the larceny of eight golf balls which had been abandoned by golfers on the Reddish Vale golf links. Hibbert said he found them on the golf course.

The Stockport magistrates at the initial hearing held that golf balls on being abandoned by players as lost became the property of the owners of the golf club.—Associated Press.

TELEGRAPH'S

Page Of

SPORTS NEWS

BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Two Minor Upsets In Quarter-Finals

Seeded Senior's Narrow Escape

The quarter-final rounds for all five sections in the Colony Open Badminton Championships were completed yesterday at the Victoria Recreation Club with upsets, involving the elimination of seeded players, in both the Junior Men's Singles and Doubles.

The game of the evening saw a seeded player in the Men's Senior Singles, Robert Tay, come very near elimination after having taken the first game and lost the second.

The deciding game saw his opponent, W. F. Foo, also of Sing Tao, put on a sterling exhibition of counter-attack to jump into a lead of 8-1. The match looked all his when he developed cramp in both legs and lost 14 points in a row on four of Tay's services.

Earlier Foo had been down 15-11, 12-3 when in the second game he suddenly hit form and outplayed Tay in every department of the game to take it at 17-14. His retrieving was spectacular and his placing caught Tay standing.

The first upset of the evening came in the very first match when Recreio's A. Bayot, seeded No. 1 in the Junior Men's Singles, went down 13-18, 14-17 to KCC's S. Saul. Saul was in form, if not at his best, but luck was on his side as well. Many a net-grazer just tumbled off the right side in Saul's favour.

Bayot led 13-7 in the first game only to lose 11 points in a row and was up 13-11 in the second only to be outlasted once more.

The veteran Kwok brothers, of St John's, seeded No. 1 in the Junior Doubles, were led all the way by the young combination of K. S. Thong and T. H. Choo, dark horses of the section, to go down 9-15, 7-18.

FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

By ARCHIE QUICK

The Footballer of the Year has proved to be the one and only Stanley Matthews. The newly formed Football Writers' Association of Britain, of which I happen to be Hon. Secretary, has by national ballot of its members voted England's and Blackpool's outside right outstanding by precept and example on and off the field.

He will receive his honour in the form of a bronze statuette at our first annual dinner in London on Cup Final Eve and thereafter the presentation will be an annual affair.

Strangely enough his wing partner, fiery Stanley Mortenson, was second, five votes behind, and Frank Swift, Manchester City's giant goalkeeper, third. Stanley House, FA Secretary Fred Howarth, Football League Secretary Mr Brook Hirst, FA President Mr Bill Cull, League President Mr Arthur Drewery, Chairman of Selectors Joe Smith, Blackpool's manager and his chairman and secretary, a host of football administrative and club officials and all leading critics will be there to do Stanley's honour.

It is a great year for the Wizard of Dribble for this Stoke man who pitters about on football fields to the confusion of all opposition has reached Wembley for the first time, has branched out into civilian life with a hotel, has created a record number of international appearances and continues to be the Hammer of the Scots whenever Sassenach and Caledonian meet.

I am glad one of the older school has got this first Oscar of the football world although Matthews says he is going to carry on some time yet.

Another I would like to have seen get it and his chance may come next year is Swift who is such a grand fellow off the field as well as being our best goalkeeper.

I was talking the other day to Stanley Cullis and after mentioning what a power for good Swift was to his team, Cullis went on to regret that the skill of Matthews cannot be perpetuated.

We have Caruso's voice and John McCormack's. Even Charlie Chaplin, the lin's original films could be revived. But we shall never be able to pass on Matthews' talent.

It is inevitable and when he retires and finishes coaching, if he ever starts it, then his marvellous football craft will be lost for good. It is a profound thought.

THE SCORES

Results in last night's games were:

Senior Singles
R. Tay (Sing Tao) beat W. F. Foo (Sing Tao) 15-11, 14-17, 15-9.

Mixed Doubles
P. H. Wong (Sing Tao) and Miss M. Ribeiro (Recreio) beat W. Gilles and Mrs Ankerson (KCC) 15-7, 17-18, 15-9.

Junior Singles
S. Saul (KCC) beat A. Bayot (Recreio) 18-12, 17-14.
A. L. Fisher (KCC) beat C. H. Ngan (Kowloon Tong) 15-2, 15-4.

Junior Doubles
K. S. Thong and T. H. Choo beat P. H. and David Kwok (St. John's) 15-9, 15-7.

S. Saul and W. Gilles (KCC) beat K. Y. Tam (Sing Tao) and D. C. Lau (Chinese YMCA) 10-7, 16-14.

LAST FOURS

Semi-finalists in the Badminton Championships are: Senior Singles: Low Keat Soo, Robert Tay, S. A. Vanar and P. H. Wong.

Junior Singles: S. Saul, K. Y. Tam, A. L. Fisher and W. C. Chung.

Senior Doubles: P. H. Wong and C. Au, T. S. Young and W. F. Foo, Low Keat Soo and S. A. Vanar, Robert Tay and P. K. Hui.

Junior Doubles: K. S. Thong and T. H. Choo, S. Saul and W. Gilles, A. Ho and K. F. Chiu, A. Bayot and F. M. Ribeiro.

Mixed Doubles: Robert Tay and Miss W. Cheung, P. H. Wong and Miss M. Ribeiro, R. Young and Miss U. Khoo, J. J. Remedios and Mrs O. Silva.

DAVIS CUP

India And Britain One-All

Harrogate, Apr. 23.—India and Great Britain won one singles match each on Thursday in the opening engagement of the European zone Davis cup tournament.

Dilip Dose of India beat Howard Walton 6-3, 0-3, 0-2.

Tony Mottram offset this by a win for England against Sumari Misra, 6-0, 6-3, 7-9, 7-5.—Associated Press.

KOZELUH TO COACH

Prague, Apr. 23.—Karel Kozeluh, one of Czechoslovakia's tennis stars, was named on Thursday to coach this country's Davis Cup team for its first match against Brazil in Prague.—Associated Press.

GERMANS NOT WANTED

London, Apr. 22.—German entries will not be accepted for the Wimbledon tennis again this year, the All England Lawn Tennis Club said today. "Only players who are allowed to compete for the Davis Cup can enter," a club official said.

The ban on the other former enemy countries—Austria, Rumania, Hungary and Italy—was lifted last year.—Associated Press.

STILL THE BIG BOY



Babe Ruth gets ready to swing on a fast one from little Russell Samuel at Miami. Bat and ball are covered with seals: the Babe was helping to promote the Southern District Master Seal campaign of the Florida Association for Crippled Children and Adults.

BASEBALL

CINCINNATI SALVAGES LAST OF THREE GAMES

Catcher Del Wilbers' error permitted right-fielder Frank Baumholtz to cross home with the deciding run and the Cincinnati Reds salvaged the last contest of the three games series with the Saint Louis Cardinals, defeating them 4-3. Wilber dropped Stan Musial's perfect return of an outfield fly in the ninth inning.

In the American League, The Detroit Tigers, on a three run sixth inning, won their third straight game from the Chicago White Sox, taking the game 3-2. Rookie Howie Judson held the Tigers hitless before a walk.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

In the National League, leftfielder Danny Litwiler pounded out three hits and drove in four runs to place the Boston Braves to a 10-4 victory over Philadelphia. The Braves took an early lead when rookie Curt Simmons walked seven men in less than two innings.

Catcher Bruce Edwards drove in three runs with a pair of doubles off lefty Thornton Lee to enable the Brooklyn Dodgers to defeat the New York Giants, 6-3, and capture the series two games to one. Centre-fielder Whitely Lockman hammered four hits, including a home run for the giants.

The veteran Elmer Riddle hurled a two hitter as the Pittsburgh Pirates gathered 10 hits to beat the Chicago Cubs 3-0. Ralph Kiner homered in the eighth.

Doubles by shortstop Connie Berry and centrefielder Walt Evers and second baseman Eddie May's single accounted for all the offensive help Virgil Trucks needed to win his first pitching triumph.

Leftfielder Barney McKosky's ninth inning two-bagger, which rightfielder Sam Mele lost in the sun, drove in a pair of runs that gave the Philadelphia Athletics their third straight win over the Boston Red Sox. The Athletics took the game 5-3 from the Red Sox.

The Athletics drove Dave Ferris out of action in the seventh inning and right-hander Bob Savage wound up as the winning pitcher after taking over for Joe Coleman in the seventh.

VICTORIA CLUB CALLOVER

London, Apr. 22.—The cards of the Two Thousand Guineas and Derby were called over at the Victoria Club tonight as follows:

Two Thousand Guineas

15 to 8 My Babu offered, 2 to 1 taken, 7 to 2 The Cobbler offered, 4 to 1 taken, 100 to 3 Pride of India, 100 to 7 Birthday Greetings, 22 to 1 Julian offered, 28 to 1 Pretence taken and offered, 33 to 1 Straight Play, Royal Drake and Sola Slipper, all offered.

The Derby

9 to 2 My Babu offered, 100 to 8 The Cobbler offered, 13 to 1 taken, 100 to 1 Black Targuin offered, 100 to 7 taken, 100 to 6 Pride of India, 20 to 1 Birthday Greetings, 22 to 1 Julian offered, 28 to 1 Pretence taken and offered, 33 to 1 Sola Slipper taken, and offered.

Only ten horses were given quotations for the Guineas and four of them were not backed. Nine horses were given a quotation for the Derby.—Reuter.

FOOTBALL

Match With Spain Cancelled

London, Apr. 22.—The English Football Association announced today that the England-Spain international soccer match, scheduled for Madrid on May 6, will not now take place.

The announcement added: "No alternative match has been arranged."

A Football Association official told the United Press the statement was intentionally blunt and that the FA was not prepared to clarify it or enlarge upon it.

However, he admitted, "We have received a cable from the Spanish FA cancelling the game. The British authorities were ready and willing to play."

The proposed match was arranged as an alternative to the Czech-England game slated for Prague on May 8, which was cancelled by the English FA two weeks ago.



DERBY HOPEFUL RUNS—Eccadru, Kentucky Derby candidate, works out at Belmont Park Track, New York. Eccadru, colt of Challenger II and Escalade, is owned by W. L. Branch. The colt won 4 of 8 starts in 4-year-old races in 1947, earning \$34,400.

BOXING

Woodcock Will Fight Again This Summer

By GEORGE WHITING

Bruce Woodcock will fight again—this summer. That was the message given me to-day by Mr. Tom Hurst, the British heavy-weight champion's manager, in reply to rumours that Bruce is finished—rumours that have persisted throughout a year of hospital treatment for the broken jaw and injured eye, brought about by America's Joe Bakai at Harringay last April.

The latest whisper is that Woodcock is giving up boxing and buying a small-holding near his native Doncaster. Hurst says only the second half of that particular story is true.

EXERCISE NOW

"I wonder if these people remember that Bruce is only 27, has never been beaten by an Englishman, has lost only two of his 32 fights, and has only been in the ring for about 150 professional rounds all told."

Hurst admitted that inactivity has not been too kind to the British heavy-weight champion. But he looked very fit when I saw him in London recently—at least 1½ stone above his fighting weight of 14st.

Woodcock discarded some time ago the pin-point spectacles prescribed to aid the vision of his right eye. His recent activities have been walking and an occasional loosener in the club gymnasium he runs at Doncaster with brother Billy.

Manager Hurst says that serious work has already been done, and that Bruce will be down to 14st in the next couple of months. "Then," he says, "a lot of people are going to eat a lot of words."

Woodcock, who expects to become a father in June, had his own torso X-rayed, contribution to the subject of his right career.

"Some people seem to have me already for the grave," he told me. "The sooner I get cracking the better."

"You may tell everybody from me" he told me to-day, "that Bruce will be back in the ring by the end of July. In fact, I am negotiating for a fight at this very minute. We have concrete offers from London and South Africa, and an inquiry from Chicago. If Bruce were thinking of packing up, do you think we should be bothering with these offers?"

STILL ONLY 27

"I have no idea who his opponent will be, but he will probably be a foreigner. People have asked about Bruce defending his British title against the winner of the Freddie Mills-Ken Shaw fight, but we shall obviously have to wait to see who wins. Mills will be tied up with his Gus Lesnevich bout till the end of July, by which time Woodcock will be ready to fight."

"Bruce will be giving an exhibition in the West Country on June 21, and he has already started light training on the road."

"There seems to me to be a lot of wishful thinking about Woodcock's retiring."

BOXER'S DEATH "ACCIDENTAL"

Milwaukee, Apr. 22.—Bert Lytell, the United States fourth ranking middleweight boxer, was freed today following an investigation into the death of his Wednesday night's opponent.

"I am convinced," District Attorney William J. McCauley said, "that after an exhaustive investigation the death of Jackie Darward of a brain hemorrhage was purely an accident."

Darward died 10 hours after he collapsed in the ring. He is the third American boxer to die this year. Darward was ranked sixth nationally. Both fighters are negroes.—Associated Press.

INNISKS' FINALS

Some very Irish fighting turned up four knock-outs on the evening's card as "B" Company won the Inter-Company Championship of the 1st Bn., The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, at the China Fleet Club Theatre last night.

Champions and runners-up were: Bantam—Fusilier Duffy on k.o. over Fusilier Brown.

Feather—Lt. Cpl. Burns on k.o. over Fus. Nicolls.

Light—Lt. Moore on k.o. over Fus. Purcell.

Welter—Fus. Owens on points over Fus. Mahoney.

Middle—Fus. Hull on k.o. over Fus. Mullin.

Light-heavy—Fus. Robinson on points over Capt. Stevens.

Heavy—Fus. Hamilton on points over Fus. O'Brien.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY AMERICANS LOSE OPENER

Cheltenham, England, Apr. 23.—The American women's field hockey team lost the opening game of its British tour on Thursday 0-8 to a West of England team.

Brilliant goal-keeping by Frances Elliott of the Middle Atlantic Field Hockey Association saved the U.S. team from an even heavier defeat.—Associated Press.

Manila Chinese For National Meet

Shanghai, Apr. 23.—Mr. Tan Choo-geh, of Manila, who is special adviser to the National Athletic Meet Organising Committee, paid a courtesy call on Mr. K. C. Wu, Mayor of Shanghai, yesterday and told the latter that the Overseas Chinese community in Manila were looking forward eagerly to participation in the competition.

Mr. Tan said that Manila is sending a large number of athletes, the first group of which is expected here by boat tomorrow.—Reuter.



"I don't see why you've suddenly turned against ham-burgers—no practically lived on them the first year we were married!"

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By STELLA

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

BORN today, your natural powers and latent talents are outstanding. You have a sharp, biting wit and are often caustic in its application. You are fond of travel. You enjoy people and are able to portray their characteristics in to be the one to stir it up with a handy stick. And sometimes it's a stick of dynamite.

You are a leader and you can put this into active form by your gift of the written and spoken word. You are a champion for the underdog and fair play above everything else. If you believe someone is being put upon, there is nothing you will not do to set things right. There is considerable of the crusader in your soul and you will implement it to the best of your ability.

But you are not, by nature, a diplomat. You come right out and say what you mean, let the hurt feelings of others fall where they may. A little more tact can be very useful. You have a sharp, biting wit and are often caustic in its application. You are fond of travel. You enjoy people and are able to portray their characteristics in to be the one to stir it up with a handy stick. And sometimes it's a stick of dynamite.

You have a gift for making money without appearing to lift a finger doing it. You may never be exceptionally wealthy since you do not care enough for hand-to-hand money. But, on the other hand, you should never be in actual need for the world's comforts. Exert caution in marriage, since you are liable to mistake temporary infatuation for true and lasting love.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your guide.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21) — No matter how gloomy the outlook appears, don't be discouraged. Stand fast on solid ground; avoid making changes just now and all will be well.

GEMINI (May 22-June 22) — Avoid worry and don't ask favour of others. Conservative action, cautiously embarked upon, brings results.

CANCER (June 23-July 23) — Minor things may come up for decision today. Take care of them in your stride and all moves smoothly.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23) — Don't put your trust too firmly in your friends. Cautious action is indicated. Don't be glib; be wary.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) — Haste can make waste and impulsive action can cause accidents, so move slowly to gain the best possible results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Take time today to make future plans but don't act on them until things improve. Clouds are lifting. Be patient.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Be guarded in both your speech and action. Caution, rather than adventurousness, is to be desired.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22) — Don't let your emotions lead you into difficulties. Self-control is very necessary now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20) — A poor day. Safeguard your position and be conservative in all your activities. Exert caution.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Definitely a poor day. To trend winter and keep aloof. Don't tempt to do anything important just now.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21) — Check your assets and guard your resources. Don't let overenthusiasm lead you into overexpenditure.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20) — Business conditions show a slight improvement but don't expand your expenditures.

SCIENCE AT WORK

NEW SHOE TO RELIEVE INFANTRY'S TIRED FEET

BY PAUL F. ELLIS
(United Press Science Writer)

U.S. Army scientists have at last made plans to relieve the tired feet of the infantry.

A new type of shoe soon will be available, according to Dr. Ray G. Dagg, director of the U.S. Army's Medical Department field research laboratory at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The shoe of the future already has been tested, he said, and it is designed to lessen the strain on the bones of the feet. Such shoes should make marching easier, he said. Unfortunately, the new shoe so far does not prevent corns, Dr. Dagg added.

He also reported that the army is designing lighter but warmer clothing for Arctic wear. Emphasis on that section of the world has been growing in recent months.

Dr. Dagg said that plastic earplugs moulded to fit the individual ear and shut out cold air already have been developed to protect the ears of field radio operators from frostbite. He said Arctic clothing studies in progress at the laboratory were undertaken because ultra-cold regions are so bulky as to reduce the wearer's efficiency.

Extreme Temperatures

The Fort Knox laboratory is attacking nearly all problems involving the health of the armed forces. Dr. Dagg predicted that the cold of the Arctic both will be rendered less unbearable as a result of research on diet, clothing, and other factors affecting comfort and health in extreme temperatures.

Dr. Dagg said furthermore that diseases of the heart and circulatory system, the ability of the body to adjust itself to sudden changes of climate, and the development of new diagnostic methods were under investigation.

He explained that the research laboratory consists of a permanent scientific group mainly under the direction of a military staff, and is made up of three sections—physiology, biochemistry and biophysics.

WORDS OF THE WISE

It is not work that kills men; it is worry. Work is healthy; it is hardly put more upon man than he can bear. Worry is rust upon the blade.—(Beecher)

It is hard for an empty bag to stand upright.—(Benjamin Franklin)

Scold not at the natural defects of any which are not in their power to mend. It is cruel to beat a cripple with his own crutches.—(Fuller)

We are never without help. We have no right to say of any good work, "It is too hard for me to do," or of any sorrow, "It is too hard for me to bear," or of any habit, "It is too hard for me to overcome."—(E. Charles)

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.—(La Rochefoucauld)

Though a taste of pleasure may quicken the relish of life, an unrestrained indulgence leads to inevitable destruction.—(Dodgson)

ZBW RADIO

Programme Summary: 6.01. Children's Hour (Studio) "Let's All Sing"—Songs for Boys and Girls introduced by Donald Fraser. 6.30. "One Night Stand" Presented by Philip Dunn. (Studio) 7. World and Home News (London Relay). 7.15. "You Asked For It" Variety Programme presented by Lynn Fraser. 8. "Intimate Variety"—What do you know about Shakespeare? A Programme for Shakespeare's Birthday (B.B.C.T.S.). 8.30. Popular Classics. World and Home News (London Relay). 9.15. Weather Report. 9.15. "The Plain Man's Guide to Shakespeare" (B.B.C.T.S.). 9.45. "Seventieth Anniversary of the Order of the Garter from St. George's Chapel, Windsor." (London Relay). 10.45. Dance to Joe Loss and His Orchestra. 11. Close Down.

POCKET CARTOON



"How about just one more little swoop down the inflationary spiral before you go back to Whitehall?"

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

BRACES, which are at the present moment the talk of the town, were invented, not by Colonel Brace of Syracuse, New York, as is often stated, but by Luperio Leonardo de Argensola of Barbastro, in the pleasant province of Huesca.

He was secretary to the Duke of Villahermosa in 1505, and his tragedy "Isabela" was praised by Cervantes. His belt burst during a brawl on the Segovia bridge at La Granja, and he constructed for himself a system of leather pulleys and blocks, which he attached to his breeches. There is a sketch of these primitive braces in the Archaeological Museum of the Plaza de San Juan in Cordova.

Do not lose your dignity

When the braces go "pop" at a party, and the trousers are left on the mat, you must strive to keep up your appearance. With a little round wickerwork hat.

Salute from Togliatti

MARSHAL POLITT needed that kiss from Marshal Togliatti in Milan. I notice that Marshal Thorez, who was also present, got no kiss. I notice, too, that Marshal Valldis, alias Markos, leader of the "Democratic Opposition" in Greece, is referred to only as "General." That is very slow promotion for a Democrat. Anyway, at the end of it all, as he reviews his life, Generalissimo Politt will be able to say, "Ah, well! Togliatti kissed me. Can Professor Haldane say as much?"

Snake-food for winning

GIVING the name of Dogmos, Samuel Trebble, 42-year-old grasshopper-trainer, of Milvington, fell through a glass roof into a tub of fish. Asked if he was hungry, he said, "The fish was father to the thought." His mother's maiden name was Galleros.

Horse-fishing at Uxbridge

HIS friends deplore the fact that he has abandoned racing for fishing. As usual, in the paddock, leading by a string. A two-year-old haddock. Refrain: Gentlemen from Tattersall's. Whoever ye be. Oh, go and call the tiddlers home. Across the sands of Dec.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers
1. Giuseppe Verdi. 2. "Widowers' Houses", produced in 1892. 3. In 1895 by Mergerthaler. 4. November 10, 1933. 5. Because daylight is continuous during the Arctic summer providing more growing time.

World Tin Shortage Will Be Acute

Washington, Apr. 22.—The International Tin Study Group, concluding its four-day session, today reported that the world tin shortage during the next few years would be more acute than had previously been estimated.

HONGKONG SHARES

Approximately \$300,000 worth of shares changed hands during this morning's session of the Hongkong Stock Exchange. The following list shows business done and noon prices:

Shares	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
BANKS			
East Bank	140	53	2040
East Asia			
Union	410	40	700
Underwriters	7.60		
HK Fire	310		
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf (O)	160		
Doors	31 1/2	32 1/2	700
Land, ETC.			
HK Hotel	10 1/2	10	800
Shai Land	3 1/2		18.85
Humphreys	24 1/2		
UTILITIES			
Tram	23	23 1/2	1600
Yau Ma Tei Ferry	52 1/2		23 1/2
C. Light (O)	18 1/2		
C. Light (N)	18 1/2		
Electric	49 1/2	50 1/2	100
Telephone	42		50
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	42 1/2		
		200	43
		1000	42 1/2
		200	42 1/2
Hope	20	20 1/2	
STOIKES, ETC.			
Watson	54		
(X. Ris.)	52 1/2	53 1/2	
Crawford	87		

Production estimates by the Group gives 1948/49 world tin output at eight percent lower than predicted last year.

The Netherlands delegate, A. Groothof, said in response to questioning, that the Indies probably would reach prewar tin production figures in 1949. He said that the NEI was at present producing at 60 percent of the prewar capacity.

Groothof said eight new tin dredges from the United States had now arrived in the Indies, and were in operation on sea deposits. He said 25 dredges were working altogether, and four more soon would be in operation when they had been rehabilitated.

The Tin Study Group sessions, which commenced Monday, were attended by 73 delegates and observers from 13 countries—United Press.

N.Y. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

New York, Apr. 22.—Today's foreign exchange closing rates were: Argentine Peso (official) US\$0.2077; Argentine Peso (unofficial) 2503; Australia 3.23; Belgium 222 1/2; Canada 91 1/2; Chile 4.03 1/2; England 4.03 1/2; France 4.03 1/2; India 4.03 1/2; Mexico 4.03 1/2; New Zealand 4.03 1/2; Peru 4.03 1/2; South Africa 4.03 1/2; Sweden 4.03 1/2; Switzerland 4.03 1/2; Uruguay 4.03 1/2; Venezuela 4.03 1/2; C. (C. 100,000) 20 1/2; Netherlands 4.03 1/2; Singapore 4.03 1/2; Hongkong 4.03 1/2.

NEW YORK SILVER

Silver, per fine ounce, as quoted by Messrs. Hoady and Harmon 74 1/2 cents. LONDON SILVER. London, Apr. 22. London, spot, per ounce, 75d. London, forward, per ounce, 75d. —United Press.

Brisk Business On Wall St

New York, Apr. 22.—Stocks today rallied briskly, rising about US\$500,000,000 in values in the most active session since December 30, 1940. Transactions totaled 1,330,000 shares. Dow Jones averages at the close of the market stood as follows: 30 Stocks 57.64; 15 Utilities 33.80; 40 Bonds 99.80. —United Press.

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET

Chicago, Apr. 22.—Chicago Board of Trade. WHEAT prices today were: May 2.47 1/2; July 2.47 1/2; CORN May 2.11 1/2; July 2.11 1/2; OATS May 1.12 1/2; July 1.12 1/2. —United Press.

ACTIVITY IN COTTON

New York, Apr. 22.—The cotton futures market was moderately active and erratic today. Prices swung over a range of \$2.50 a bale with the market apparently consolidating its position following the recent persistent wide advance. Some speculators were inclined to take profit on the theory that the market has been overbought and with the good news out on the extent of the export demand. The market opened nine points higher to seven points lower. May reached a new top at 33 1/2 cents on the first day. Realizing, hedge pressure and profit-taking forced the market down to 32 1/2 cents. The market rallied briskly in the final minutes of trading on news of Senate passage of the US\$100,000,000 bill for cotton for shipment to occupied countries. The measure goes next to the House of Representatives. Prices closed as follows: May (in cents per lb.) 32.60; October 32.70; December 32.70; March (1949) 32.70; May 32.60; July 32.50; September 32.50; Spot 32.50 nominal. —United Press.

SUGAR FUTURES CLOSE LOWER

New York, Apr. 22.—May liquidation before the first notice date on Monday kept gradual pressure against domestic sugar futures today. Domestic sugar closed seven points lower to one point higher on sales of 263 contracts. World No. 4 contract closed three points lower on sales of 30 contracts. Prices closed as follows: May (in cents per lb.) 4.43 nominal; September 4.43 nominal; March (1949) 3.70 nominal; May 3.70. —United Press.

Bank Of England Returns

London, April 22.—The Bank of England returns for the week ending April 21 were as follows: Total gold holdings £ 1,237,525,000; Public deposits 10,294,000; Private deposits 40,337,000; Government securities 330,519,000; Other securities 33,711,000; Receipts 6,225,000; Bank ratio 15.5 percent. —United Press.

Bank Of France Statement

Paris, Apr. 22.—The Bank of France statement for the week ending April 15 reads as follows: Total gold holdings Frs. 22,816,356,120; Total of other currencies 10,240,139; Sight balances abroad 137,427; Bills discounted in France and abroad 143,243,183,161; Notes in circulation 246,440,007,655; Current accounts and deposits 274,620,409,204. —United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates: Chinese dollars (per CN\$1 m.) 8.10; U.S. dollars (per US\$1) 13.10; Gold bars (per 100) 5.67; Plaster (per 100) 11.40; Slams trials (per 100) 23.50; NEI guilders (per 100) 45.00. —United Press.

RUBBER FUTURES

New York, Apr. 22.—Rubber futures closed today at the following prices: April (in cents per lb.) 23.03 nominal; May 23.03 bid; June 23.03 bid; July 23.03 traded; November 23.03 nominal; December 23.03 nominal; January (1949) 23.03 nominal; March 23.03 nominal. LONDON RUBBER. May-per lb. (in pence) 12-11/16d bid; July 12-11/16d bid; September 12-9/16d traded; December 12-9/16d bid. —United Press.

LESSON HAND

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE
Timing, Important Factor in Bridge

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

▲KJ87	▲Q803
▲AK8	▲105
▲10432	▲KQ3
▲1054	▲Q98
▲QD3	
▲J1078	
▲J78	
▲A	
▲J7842	
▲Q432	
▲AK5	

Tournament—Neither vul.
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 N.T. Pass 3 N.T. Pass
Opening—♠ 20

WHILE some people like to count losers, I believe in counting winners and then developing losers into winners.

We will not attempt to justify the bidding of today's lesson hand. Although it is more or less natural, I think correct play will produce four hearts. However, this declarer finds himself in three no trump.

When the dummy goes down, we see two spade tricks, two heart tricks, a diamond and two club tricks. Where can we find the eighth and ninth tricks?

If the heart suit breaks three-two, we can develop two tricks there. We have to hope that the diamond opening is from a four-card suit, so it will do no harm to duck the first round of diamonds and let East win with the queen. East's proper return is the king of diamonds, which has to be won in dummy with the ace.

If we cash the ace and king of hearts right now, how can we get back into dummy to make the king of spades? If we cash the ace and king of spades, when the opponents get in with a heart they could cash the queen of spades.

Thus we have nine tricks, but we have to watch the timing to cash all of them. So, far winning the second diamond with the ace in dummy we should cash the ace of hearts, go over to the ace of spades, and play a low heart. Then regardless of what West plays we play a low heart from dummy. If West plays the nine, East will win with the ten, return the five of diamonds, and West will cash two more rounds of diamonds.

But now, because we watched the timing, we still have the king of hearts to get into dummy with in order to cash the spade king, and the ace of clubs to get back into the South hand to cash the good hearts.

Timing plays as important a part in bridge as in any sport.

Check Your Knowledge

1. Who was Italy's outstanding composer of operas?
2. Name George Bernard Shaw's first play.
3. When and by whom was the first linotype machine made?
4. When did the United States recognize the government of Soviet Russia?
5. Why do some plants, such as cabbages, grow faster and bigger in parts of the Arctic than they do in the tropics?

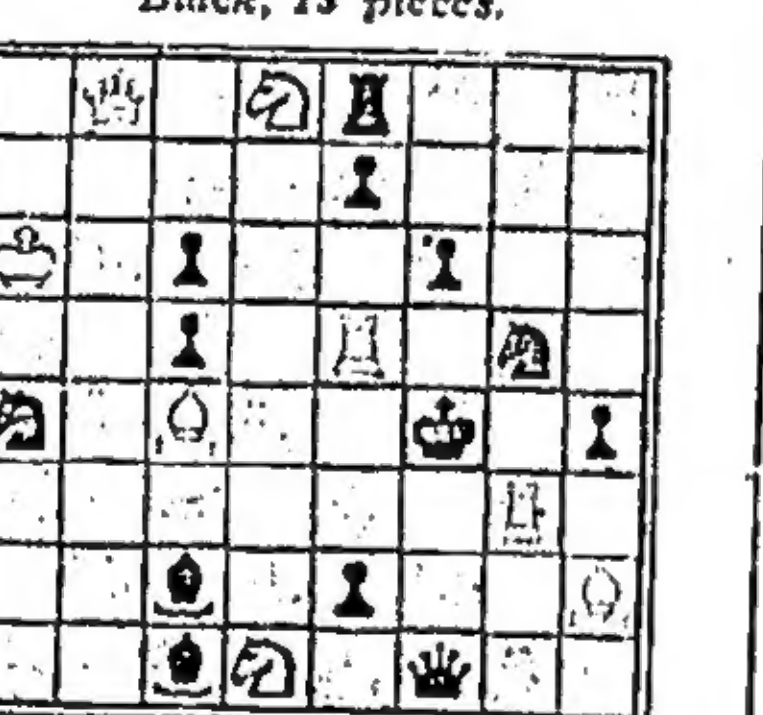
(Answers on Column 5)

DUMB BELLS



CHESS PROBLEM

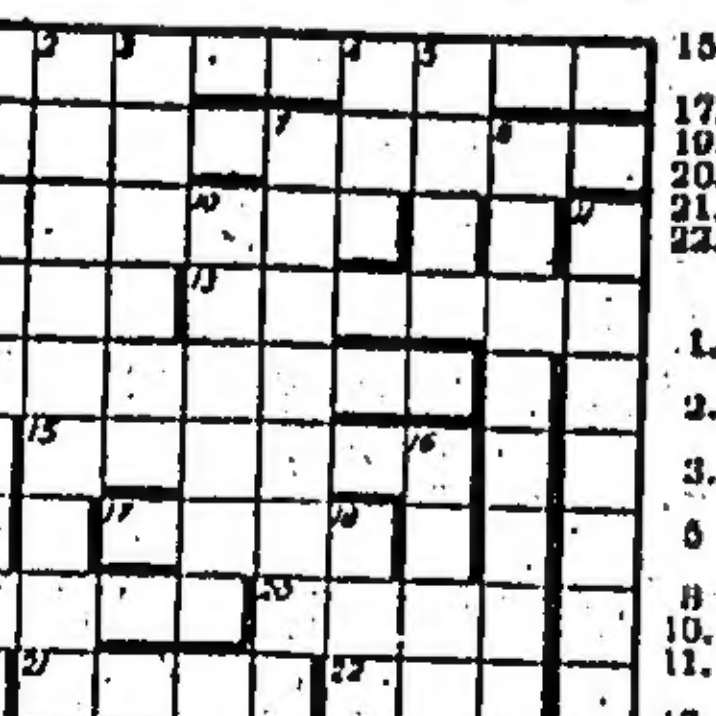
By M. HUKOFZER
(BCF Tourney 51)



White, 8 pieces.
White to play and mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. Kt KK8, any; 2. Q, P (dis ch), or Kt (ch, or dcl ch) mates.

CROSSWORD

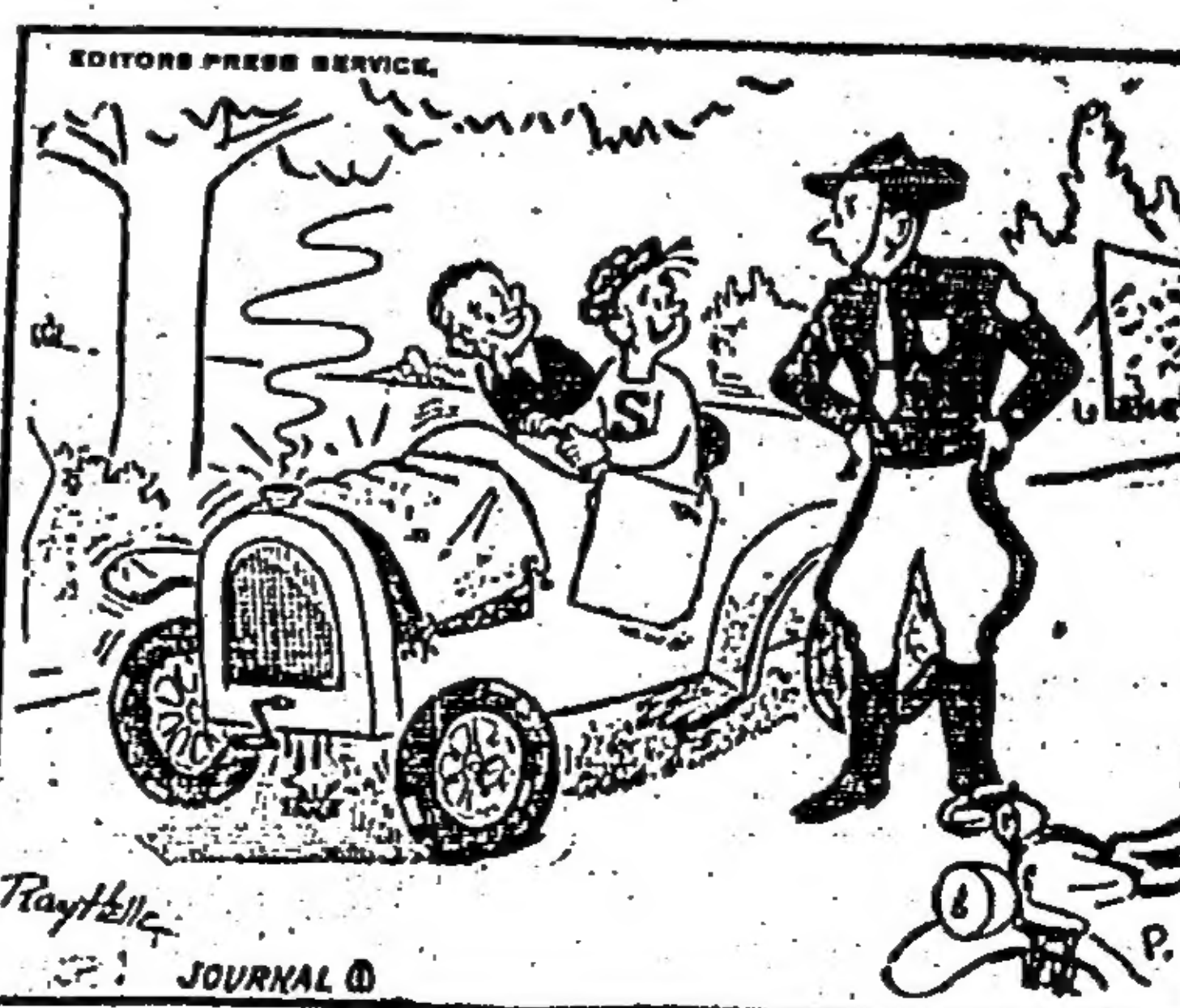


1. The country that will enter gain.
2. Send a rose (anag.). (4, 5)
3. Heat will make it drip. (6)
4. A hazy horizon. (3)
5. Looks like a confession of wickedness to an artist. (6)
6. Lackjaw. (7)

15. Correct arrangement of words in sentences. (6)
17. It may be a check. (4)
18. Below par. (6)
20. Almost touching. (2)
21. A complete circle. (8)
22. An inclined hatch for washing ore. (3)

1. He taught Alexander the Great. (9)
2. English or American city, or rusty voiced comedian. (10)
3. Its girls attracted the nobility. (10)
4. Starting point. (15)
5. What refreshing places they can be. (4)
6. Wildcat or airship? (10)
7. Answer. (8)
8. Carrier birds. (10)
9. It completely changes a tag. (10)
10. It can give a shadow picture. (1-3)
11. The reverse of less. (13)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle—Across: 1. and 2. Polishing wood. 3. Tugboat. 4. Apr. 19. 5. Java. 6. Hare. 7. 15. Hilly. 8. Star. 9. 10. Blame. 11. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.



"Were we really speeding, or are you just trying to make us feel good?"

Girls To Cycle Round England

Capetown, Apr. 22.—Two South African typists from East London will sail for England on board the Stirling Castle today to embark on a cycling tour of England, Scotland and Wales.

They are Miss G. Orlepp and Miss Bernice Withers, who between them have saved £550 for the trip. "My nest egg of £400 has taken me 10 years to save," Miss Withers said today.

The two girls have sporting cycles waiting for them in London. They intend to cycle to Devonshire as the first part of their tour, then go north to Scotland. They expect the tour will last about four months.

Both have resigned from their jobs at home and hope to earn some money in England working as land girls.—Associated Press.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice To Shareholders

ADOPTION OF NEW ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Members of this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Wednesday, 28th April, 1948, at 12.15 p.m., or at such time as the Ordinary Annual Meeting of Members to be held at the same place at Noon shall terminate, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Special Resolution:—

"That the New Articles of Association produced to the Meeting, and for the purpose of identification subscribed by David Fortune Landale, Chairman of the Company and of the Meeting, be adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all existing Articles of Association of the Company."

A copy of the Proposed New Articles can be inspected by any Shareholder at the Office of the Company during the usual office hours.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. E. TERRY,
Manager and Secretary,
Hongkong, 5th April, 1948.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice To Shareholders

Ordinary Annual Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Fifty-seventh Ordinary Annual Meeting of the Members of the Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Wednesday, 28th April, 1948, at Noon, to receive and consider the Report of the Board of Directors and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1947, to elect Directors and to appoint Auditors.

Closing of Transfer Books
Notice is also given that the Register of Members and Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 15th April, 1948, to 22nd April, 1948, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. E. TERRY,
Manager and Secretary,
Hongkong, 5th April, 1948.

POSITIONS VACANT

FISHERIES Marketing Organisation. A vacancy exists for an intelligent, energetic young man. Duties are of an executive and supervisory nature. It is preferable that applicants should be University graduates. Write stating qualifications, experience and salary required to the Fisheries Office, G.P.O. Building.

VACANCIES EXIST for one Accountant and for one Book-keeper. Applicants should apply stating qualifications, experience and salary required to Box 113, Hongkong Telegraph.

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5-Man Commission For Kashmir

WILL SUPERVISE PLEBISCITE

Lake Success, Apr. 22.—The Security Council has agreed to the appointment of a five-man "good offices" commission to go to Kashmir to supervise a plebiscite on the State's future. The plan was adopted last night despite the objections of both India and Pakistan.

Tung Oil Industry Improves

Shanghai, Apr. 22.—Despite reports that tung oil production in the United States and Canada is on the increase, China is expected to export a total of 70,000 tons during this year, according to Shanghai trade circles.

A report on the future prospects for the tung industry declares that there is a possibility even, that the present average of 74,000 tons maintained in the years 1935 to 1939 will be reached.

The value of a 70,000-ton export is placed at the present time at US\$30,000,000.

As last year, when a total of 66 percent of the entire China output went to American ports, the United States is expected again to be the best customer in 1948. The U. S. Government, according to local circles, is stockpiling tung, and regardless of how much may be produced there, it is still seeking to keep its imports at the highest possible level.

SHUNNING SUBSTITUTES

Manufacturers of paints and varnishes also are said to be turning away from the substitutes developed during the war years, and are demanding larger quantities of tung oil.

The British action last year in lifting the controls over tung imports is expected to result in larger imports into the British Isles.

Total China production for this year is estimated at 80,000 tons, of which 10,000 tons is estimated as sufficient for domestic consumption. Szechuan province is expected to produce 25,000 tons, Honan 24,000, Hupeh 10,000, Chekiang 4,000, Kweichow and Kwangsi, 10,000, and Kwangtung, 2,000 tons.—United Press.

NAZI'S FUTILE DEFENCE

The Hague, Apr. 22.—Hans Albin Rauter, 52-year old former general and German SS Chief in Holland, shouted during his trial here today that he could not be sentenced by any court "because as a German I fought for my Fatherland."

The prosecutor replied: "You are not being tried for what you did as a German for your Fatherland, but for your crimes against the Dutch people."

Rauter faces eight war crimes charges, among them the deportation of 110,000 Dutch Jews, of whom only 6,000 returned alive.

Sentence will be announced on May 4.—Reuter.

Communist Plot Defeated

Shanghai, Apr. 22.—A Communist plot to paralyse local industry by explosion of the electric generator at Yangtsepoo (eastern district of Shanghai) was nipped in the bud by the Shanghai Garrison authorities with the arrest of 11 suspects, it was announced last night by the City Government.

The Communist underground plot, besides undermining local manufacturing, would create confusion and unrest by throwing out 100,000 labourers out of employment, according to the confessions of the arrested men.

The method used by the saboteurs was to throw iron filings into the electric generator at the plant to halt the electricity supply in industrial sections of the city.—Reuter.

NAVAL RATINGS DESERT SHIP

Gibraltar, Apr. 22.—A Naval court martial today found three naval ratings guilty of deserting their ship, a naval frigate at Beirut, to join the Arab forces in Palestine. One rating was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment and dismissed the Services, another to one year and dismissal, and the third to six months' detention.—Reuter.

Silver Wedding Rehearsal

Swords and breastplates flash in the sunshine, harness jingles, plumes wave . . . and at 8 a.m. today through the trees in the park ride the Household Cavalry rehearsing for the Silver Wedding drive.

A squadron each of the Life Guards and the Blues (Royal Horse Guards) took part; the Life Guards in the lead.

Soviet Charges Over Air Crash Denied

Berlin, Apr. 22.—Soviet charges that the British authorities had "tampered" with the wreckage of the Yak fighter after its collision with a Viking passenger plane over Berlin were denied by Major-General Neville Brownjohn, the British Deputy Military Governor in Germany, tonight.

He also denied that the evidence was falsified. The charges were made in the report of the Soviet inquiry into the crash which occurred on April 5.

General Brownjohn said: "The report of the British investigation, based upon the examination of official documents and the sworn evidence of officials, experts and witnesses, has already been published."

"I have no comment to make on the Soviet version except to say that the British did not tamper with the wreckage of the Yak and did not falsify the evidence."

No copy of the Soviet report had been received at British Military Government headquarters tonight, but it was understood here that copies of the published statement were under scrutiny in London.—Reuter.

Railway Crash Inquiry Evidence

Crewe, Cheshire, Apr. 22.—The pulling of the communication cord by a 20-year old soldier was not the cause of the train smash at Winsford, Cheshire, last Saturday, in which 24 people were killed.

Colonel G. S. Wilson, inspecting officer of railways, stating this at the official inquiry here today, said there had been much publicity about the pulling of the signal which was done irresponsibly.

"It happened in this case to produce a set of circumstances which did lead perhaps to the accident, but the cord might just as well have been legitimately pulled for some very good reason and the train could have stopped just the same," he said.

The signalling system and rules were such that a stoppage should be fully protected, in this case, they were not properly carried out and the following mail train, which crashed into the back of the Glasgow to London passenger express, was admitted to an occupied section of the line.—Reuter.

Pope Is Delighted

Italy's Skies Brighter With Hope

Rome, Apr. 22.—Pope Pius XII said today the "skies of Italy are brighter with hope" as a result of the Parliamentary election in which the foes of Communism emerged victorious.

Describing the election as a memorable event in Italian history, the Pontiff declared in a statement for the American press that the balloting had "quickened the confidence of all Europe, yes, and the whole world."

During the campaign the Pope and prelates throughout Italy warned followers of the Communist dominated Popular Front that they might lose the right to Church sacraments.

Premier Alcide de Gasperi, leader of the triumphant Christian Democrats, told a news conference that the defeated Leftists could enjoy Democratic liberty "if they do not resort to coercion or threats of plots, or keep arms."

REFORMS ESSENTIAL

Both the Pope and de Gasperi laid stress on Italy's need for social and economic reform. But such change can only be built on the foundation of a sound economic structure, the Premier said.

Italy, because of limitation of her peace treaty, is not in a position to co-operate on an equal basis with the Western European military alliance of Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, de Gasperi said. He added: "I do not know what Parliament will decide, but our tendency is to collaborate in every way in the reconstruction of all free nations within the framework of the United Nations, to defend peace and democracy."

Diplomats in London said on Wednesday Italy's rebuke to the Communists opened the way for an early invitation into the Western alliance.—Associated Press.

MIDDLE EAST COMMAND

London, Apr. 22.—The Middle East Command is to be re-organised, it was officially announced tonight.

The headquarters of the Middle East Land Forces, now at Fayid, on the Suez Canal Zone, will be responsible for policy and will retain operational command.

Administration will be dealt with by two subordinate commands direct with the War Office in London.

One—the Eastern Mediterranean Command—will include all land forces in Egypt, Greece, Cyprus, Malta and North Africa. The other—the East Africa Command—will include all land forces from Somalia to the Zambesi.—Reuter.

FLYING SLATE KILLS MAN

Elland, Yorks, Apr. 23.—A piece of slate blasted from a quarry face sailed 80 yards through a window on Thursday and injured four persons, one fatally.

Alfred Wilson, 29, died of head injuries.—Associated Press.

PLEA FOR UNITY

Manila, Apr. 22.—Dr Jose P. Laurel, the puppet president of the Philippines during the Japanese occupation, pleaded for unity in an interview today.

"As a temporary measure," he was reported as saying, "we should do away with partisan politics."

Dr Laurel denied that he had called President Quirino "inept" in an interview early this week with a Manila Chronicle reporter while on a speaking tour in Tarlac Province, although the newspaper concerned insisted that Dr Laurel did make the accusation.—Reuter.

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